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OPINION and comment

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Eastern Daily Press

SERVING THE COMMUNITY **SINCE 1870**

Welcome news for Marham – and for the whole region

The news today that four more F-35 Lightning II fighter aircraft are now on order will be welcomed, not only at RAF Marham, but around the region.

From the end of 2018, the Lightning II aircraft will be both supported and operated from the West Norfolk air

And, as the minister for defence equipment, Philip Dunne, says, the placing of the order cements the central role of Norfolk in military aviation.

Marham has a large, skilled workforce, and the impact of its employment is spread much further than Marham itself. It reaches across the county and across the region.

The base provides employment for 3,600 RAF personnel and Ministry of Defence civil servants, 1,220 contract staff, and 350 other civilians.

The pay for RAF personnel and MOD civil servants alone amounts to around £100m, much of which is re-invested in the local economy.

In addition, more than 500 companies across the UK are involved in the supply chain for the Lightning II: making the deal good for British business in general.

The EDP has long been a supporter of RAF Marham, teaming up with MPs, councils and the local community to 'Make it Marham' when the base's future seemed in doubt. In March 2013, the announcement was made which secured the base's future, along with the thousands of jobs and millions of pounds it brings to our region's economy.

It's pleasing to see that the momentum has not stopped, and that Norfolk can continue to take pride in its role as an engineering centre of excellence.

For those less fortunate

So what was the secret of Norwich City legend Darren Eadie's success in the weekend's trolley dash battle with Olympic boxing medallist Anthony Ogogo?

According to the former Canary, it was his years of experience of shopping with a large family.

That will certainly resonate with mums and dads doing their weekly supermarket rush, dodging slow-moving trolleys and snapping up bargains.

But the fun event at the East of England Co-Op store in Long Stratton had a serious purpose in helping the region's foodbanks.

Not everyone can fill their supermarket trolleys this Christmas – and it's up to all of us to lend a hand through the foodbanks' magnificent work. Please give them a thought the next time you shop.

You're never too old...

Go for it! That was the message given to Ray Thirkettle when he told a colleague of his dream of joining the British Antarctic Survey - and his fears that he was too

So the Norfolk electrician did have a go - sad now he's off on a dream journey to spend 18 months on South

At a time when he's looking towards his pension, he'll be also be looking towards the icv seas of the South Atlantic. It's proof that you're never to old to try something different.



READER'S PICTURE OF THE DAY





Richard Brunton took this wonderful picture of a fallow deer stag on the move in Holkham Park. If you would like to submit a picture for possible publication in the EDP, visit www.iwitness24.co.uk

Like a circle in a spiral like a wheel within a wheel



The term "Danish pastry" first hit the English-speaking world when confections of that type were served in Washington DC at the wedding of president Wilson, in

The pastries then took New York by storm and became so common in the USA that nowadays Americans wanting one generally just ask for "a danish". The phrase Danish pastry didn't arrive in this country until the 1930s, when it turned up in London, presumably along with the pastries themselves, from America, But I don't recall ever having heard the term here in Norwich until very many decades indeed after that.

But why Danish? From New York, the trail goes back to Copenhagen, where these confections were first baked in the 1850s, and where the bakers who brought them to the US came from.

But what do they call them in Denmark? Obviously it's no good asking for a Danish pastry there: all pastries in Denmark are Danish.

Well, if you want a Danish pastry in Copenhagen, you have to ask for a 'wienerbrød" – meaning Viennese bread. But why Vienna? Well, it seems they were first baked in Copenhagen by bakers who'd arrived there from the Austrian capital when Danish bakers were on strike. So then the interesting question arises; what are wienerbrød called in Vienna, where everything is Viennese? According to native informants consulted by this column, they don't have a single word for them - there are so many types of these pastries there that the usual thing is to ask for a particular sort by name. But the German Wikipedia tells us that the original Viennese pastry which found its way to Copenhagen was the type called a "golatsche"

So where did the word golatsche come from? It turns out that the Viennese borrowed this word from the Czech

language of Bohemia, now across their border with Czechia. (The Czech word is actually "kolá".)

■ The Danish pastry, a sweet

treat which

by storm.

took New York

There's a suggestion that this comes from the Czech word for wheel, "kolo", because a Bohemian kolá is typically round. If so, this circularity is appropriate. According to native informants consulted by this column, if vou're in Prague and want a Danish pastry, the most usual thing is, again, to specify the particular type you want.

But there is also a rather new Czech term vou could use. This is "dánské peivo". You can guess what that means. Dánské is the Czech for Danish. And peivo means pastry...